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XIV.6 On the cultivation of the land in warm climates

- The Spirit of Law - Book XIV. On the laws in their relation to the nature of the climate -

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Cultivation of the land is men's greatest labor. The more the climate inclines them to flee this labor, the more religion and the laws must prompt them to it. Thus the laws of the Indies that give the lands to the princes and suppress the spirit of property in private citizens increase the noxious effects of the climate, which is to say natural indolence.